

reason is a dangerous guide. By arguments which accurate observation would have discredited it has induced men to mutilate their bodies by such practises as circumcision and foot-binding to kill their new-born children aged parents and to make unprovoked and objectless wars upon their fellow men. Led by directive instinct the lower animals make no such futile mistakes : if instinct has contrived the hereditary mutilation of worker bees by the loss of their sex it has certainly benefited the hive by their concentrated industry.

Man's extraordinary progress may in great measure be ascribed to a weakening of directive instinct which has compelled him to rely upon his reasoning capacity. The faculty of reason is no monopoly of mankind : we can detect its working very far down the animal kingdom. But when subjected to the rivalry of directive instinct it is out-distanced by the straighter running of its competitor. So, in the case of the lower animals, instinct generally makes good its claim to leadership, and we may observe its influence in a uniformity of conduct amongst the individuals or communities, that belong to the same species. One troop of monkeys in an Indian jungle precisely resembles another in its manners and habits. But the castes of an Indian village are sharply distinguished by peculiarities of behaviour. Man has gained incalculably in liberty of action

by the loss of a tyrannical faculty.
which. however
safe a guide tolerates no wandering
on the part
of its followers.

What is discovered by reason is
recorded by
memory and since the records of
memory do not
become hereditarily imprinted upon
the mind.
each generation would start from the
commence-
ment of the track were it not
equipped by means